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December 9, 1904 2530

## Deaths from drowning.

Of 3,040 deaths in 1903, 246 were suicidal, 2,694 accidental, and 100 were entered as "otherwise," implying that no decision had been reached as to whether they were suicidal or accidental.

Deaths from dysentery and diarrhea, Bombay presidency, 1903.

Population of the presidency (1901), 18,481,362.

1892	32, 965	1901	60, 198
1893	34, 667	1902	58, 682
1894	35, 348	1903	55, 443
1895	36, 046	Mean, 1892 to 1897	43, 398
1896	85, 966	Mean, 1898 to 1903	87, 348
1897 1898 1899	56, 789	Mean, 1893 to 1902	

In 1903 these diseases caused the deaths of 29,586 males and 25,857 females.

Causes of these diseases.—Famine was the cause of the great mortality in 1900. The annual high death rate is ascribed to "impure water supplies, poverty, privation, unwholesome food, dust, flies, and lack of skillful medical attendance. Traveling dispensaries would do much to lessen the high mortality from these diseases."

In the province of Gujarat, for example, the deputy sanitary commissioner reports that "but little attention is paid to prevent contamination of drinking-water supplies, practically no attention being paid to the recommendations of the sanitary department on this subject."

Deaths by months.—Dysentery and diarrhea were most prevalent in August, September, and October.

Report from Calcutta—Vessels given bills of health—Cholera and plaque.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Eakins reports, November 3, as follows: During the week ended October 29, 1904, bill of health was issued to the steamship *Border Knight*, bound to Boston and New York with a total crew of 34, and to steamship *Victorious*, bound to Boston with a total crew of 27. The usual precautions were taken, rat guards on wharf lines and holds fumigated, and the effects of the Chinese in the former vessel were disinfected.

There were 8 deaths from cholera and 4 deaths from plague in Calcutta.

In Bengal during the week ended October 22, 1904, there were 216 cases and 100 deaths from plague.

In India during the week ended October 15, 1904, there were 20,203 cases and 16,111 deaths from plague.